FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH IN LAKE COUNTY GOES BLUE TO KNOCK OUT COLON CANCER



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Eustis, FL – Employees at the Florida Department of Health in Lake County are raising colon cancer public awareness by participating and urging others in the community to wear blue on Friday, March 6, 2020 which is the Colon Cancer Alliance "National Dress in Blue Day"

As per the Colon Cancer Alliance, "every year, more than 147,000 people are diagnosed with this highly preventable disease. Colorectal cancer is the third most common cancer in the US, and the second leading cause of cancer death. It affects men and women of all racial and ethnic groups and is most often found in people 50 years or older." It's a scary statistic and it's one of the reasons why the Florida Department of Health in Lake County has joined the fight with the Colon Cancer Alliance against this disease, which can be prevented in many cases through screening but is still the second leading cause of overall cancer deaths in the United States.

"Prevention and early detection are the best tools we have to fight this disease. This why the Florida Department of Health in Lake County will continue educating our residents on the importance of screening." said Aaron Kissler, Health Officer with the Florida Department of Health in Lake County.

National *Dress in Blue Day* is held on the first Friday in March in communities and offices throughout the nation. The Colon Cancer Alliance first launched the *Dress in Blue Day* program in 2009 to bring nationwide attention to colon cancer and to celebrate the courage of those affected by this disease. Today, individuals, businesses and community groups across the country participate by wearing blue and urging others to do the same. Blue is the nationally recognized color for colon cancer. By "getting blued," we hope to raise public awareness and save lives.

Together, we can create a future free of colon cancer. For more information, visit https://www.ccalliance.org/colorectal-cancer-information.

About the Florida Department of Health

The department, nationally accredited by the <u>Public Health Accreditation Board</u>, works to protect, promote and improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county and community efforts.

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